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Message Text

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44
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 PC-10 OMB-01 CIEP-03 DRC-01 /129 W
---------- 069534
R 301437Z SEP 74
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1289
INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 11711

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR ET US
SUBJECT: AMERICAN INTERFERENCE AGAIN RUMORED

REF: MEMCON DATED 9/30/74

1. DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE THAT RUMORS OF ALLEGED US INTER-
FERENCE IN ETHIOPIA'S POLITICAL PROCESS ARE AGAIN PEAKING.

2. ALLEGATIONS RANGE FROM WIDELY DISCUSSED AND BELIEVED CANARD
THAT PRINCE PAUL VAULTED WALL INTO AMEMBASSY COMPOUND WHERE HE
GIVEN ASYLUM, TO FLIERS ACCUSING VARIOUS PROMINENT PERSONALITIES,
INCLUDING CHAIRMAN AFCC MENGHISTU AND COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
CHAIRMAN MESFIN, OF BEING CIA TOOLS.

3. COMMENT: IN PART THERE NO QUESTION THAT ALLENDE/CIA HEARINGS
IN CONGRESS HELPING STOKE THESE FIRES. BUT FRENCH COLLEAGUES,
FOR INSTANCE, ASSURE US STORIES HAVE ASSUMED SUCH PROPORTIONS
THAT ONLY A DELIBERATE COVERT CAMPAIGN BY OUR OPPONENTS CAN
ACCOUNT FOR THE CURRENT PHENOMENON. BE THAT AS IT MAY, IT CLEAR
THAT DISCOMFORT OF CELU ORGANIZERS, STUDENTS, ETC. WITH THEIR
PROSPECTS ALSO HELPS PERPETUATE URBAN MALAISE ON WHICH SUCH
STORIES FEED. OUR SOURCES TELL US, HOWEVER, THAT THESE TALES
ARE NEVERTHELESS MAKING SOME IMPACT, NOTABLY IN MILITARY
CIRCLES - - NOTWITHSTANDING FACT MILITARY WELL PLACED TO KNOW,
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FOR EXAMPLE, WHERE PAUL IS - - AND WE ARE NOTICING INCREASED
LEVEL OF STREET HOSTILITY TOWARDS AMERICANS IN WHICH USE OF

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"CIA" AS EPITHET IS PROMINENT FEATURE.
WYMAN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: CollinP0
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